

Maine Revised Statutes

Title 12: CONSERVATION

Chapter 915: HUNTING: SEASONS, REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

§11701. AUTHORITY OF COMMISSIONER; WILD TURKEY HUNTING

The commissioner may establish open seasons for hunting wild turkeys, designate areas that are open to the taking of wild turkeys in any part of the State, prescribe the form and regulate the number of permits to be issued, determine the number and sex of the birds to be harvested, establish bag limits, establish permit eligibility requirements, establish legal hunting times, specify the types of weapons to be used during any open wild turkey hunting season and make any other rules that the commissioner considers necessary for the protection of the wild turkey resource. The rules must permit the use of a crossbow during the spring open wild turkey hunting season. [2013, c. 236, §6 (AMD).]

1. Spring season. The commissioner shall establish by rule a spring open season for hunting wild turkeys. Unless the commissioner determines that sound management principles require otherwise, the rule must allow during the spring open season for hunting wild turkeys:

A. A person to take up to 2 wild turkeys without any additional fee for the taking of the 2nd wild turkey; [2013, c. 387, §3 (NEW).]

B. A person to hunt from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset; and [2015, c. 127, §4 (AMD); 2015, c. 127, §6 (AFF).]

C. A person to hunt wild turkeys using a crossbow, in addition to any other weapons allowed by the rule. [2013, c. 387, §3 (NEW).]

[2015, c. 127, §4 (AMD); 2015, c. 127, §6 (AFF) .]

2. Fall seasons. Beginning with the 2016 fall open season, the commissioner shall establish by rule 2 fall open seasons for hunting wild turkeys. Unless the commissioner determines that sound management principles require otherwise, the rule must establish 2 fall open seasons that include the month of October and a week in the month of November and allow a person to take up to a total of 2 wild turkeys over both seasons regardless of sex without any additional fee for the taking of a 2nd wild turkey.

[2015, c. 127, §5 (AMD); 2015, c. 127, §6 (AFF) .]

3. Youth day. The commissioner shall establish by rule a spring youth hunting day for hunting wild turkeys from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset. The day must be the Saturday prior to the opening of the spring open season for hunting wild turkeys under subsection 1.

[2013, c. 387, §3 (NEW) .]

A person who violates this section commits a Class E crime for which the court shall impose a fine of not less than \$500, none of which may be suspended. The court also shall impose a fine of \$500 for each turkey unlawfully possessed, none of which may be suspended. [2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §179 (NEW); 2003, c. 655, Pt. B, §422 (AFF).]

SECTION HISTORY

2003, c. 414, §A2 (NEW). 2003, c. 414, §D7 (AFF). 2003, c. 552, §9 (AMD). 2003, c. 552, §15 (AFF). 2003, c. 614, §9 (AFF). 2003, c. 655, §B179 (AMD). 2003, c. 655, §§B422,C2,6 (AFF). 2013, c. 236, §6 (AMD). 2013, c. 387, §3 (AMD). 2015, c. 127, §§4, 5 (AMD). 2015, c. 127, §6 (AFF) .

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 127th Maine Legislature and is current through October 1, 2016. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.